of species to read that most remarkable book, the 'Origin of Species,' without feeling that, whether the hypothesis maintained in it were true or false, its perusal had given him a new and broader view of the relations of organisms to each other and to the world at large. In the light thrown on it by the genius of Darwin, systematic natural history assumed a new form; new methods and new purposes of research grew out of the new views; and the investigations of naturalists carried out in accordance with these speedily led to the recognition of the fact that the doctrine of the origin of species by descent with modification, was, if not absolutely true in the particular form given to it by Mr. Darwin, at any rate the best scientific explanation of the observed facts of natural history.

Thus, by his publications of the last twenty-four years, Mr. Darwin, already known as one of the best of English naturalists, has exerted a greater influence upon the study of biology than any one since the days of Linnæus. But this is only the direct result of his labours; indirectly they have changed the whole current of modern thought, and led to a conception of nature and of man himself, the consequences of which are already widely felt in all civilized communities, and will infallibly, in course of time, effect a fundamental change in all our philosophies.

By the influence that he has exerted in this direction, Mr. Darwin will rank, not only as the greatest of English naturalists, but as one of the foremost men of all time; and we cannot but rejoice that the prejudices which for some time prevailed against his views have been so far dispelled as to permit the burial of his remains in the resting-place of those Englishmen whom their country delights to honour. Those who assisted at his funeral will not soon forget the spectacle presented by Westminster Abbey on that occasion.

On a new Apterous Male among the Coccidæ (Acanthococcus aceris, *Sign.*). By M. J. Lichtenstein.

The normal perfect state of the male of *Gossyparia ulmi* is to have only rudiments of wings; and in another Coccid, also of the elm (*Ritsemia pupifera*), the author has indicated that the male is completely apterous. He has also described (Ent. M. Mag. vol. xiv. 1877) an apterous form of male found on the roots of grasses. He now states that the male of *Acanthococcus aceris*, Sign., which is common on the maple, is also apterous. It presents the usual form of the males of the Coccidæ, but shows no trace either of wings or balancers; its length is 0·70 millim., its colour reddish brown; the antennæ are moniliform, of ten joints garnished with hairs, and 0·38 millim. long. The abdomen terminates in an inflated joint bearing

the penis, and placed between two triangular papillæ, from which spring two long white caducous filaments, as in the Coccidæ generally.

The author ascertained the occurrence of these apterous males by rearing them; and he describes their development. The eggs are laid about the 1st of May, and hatched about the 20th to 25th of May, when the young larvæ disperse themselves over the maples, attaching themselves under the leaves and growing very slowly. They are then of an elongate ovoid form, pointed behind and covered with spines, whence the generic name. When the leaves fall the insects make their way to the bark and prepare for their winter sleep, which does not last very long. An enclosed larva in December or the beginning of January is sure to secrete through all its spines, which are really spinners, a felted cottony material which envelops it like a cocoon, closed in front, but transversely cleft behind. The cocoon finished, which is about the 14th of January, the insect casts its skin with the spinning-tubes, which has become useless, and rejects it through the posterior fissure. It then acquires a more elongate form, and appears as a small sac filled with liquid, having, as shapeless appendages, the two antennæ and the six legs, which have scarcely any traces of articulation, and are only 0·009 millim. long. This *pseudonymphal* state lasts a week, when there is a new change of skin, which is again got rid of through the posterior fissure, and the true nymph appears. It has the limbs more developed; the legs are 0·045 millim. in length, and show their articulations very clearly; the antennæ, although smooth and ringed by ten small lines, show by transparence the moniliform antennæ of the perfect insect forming in their interior; in a fortnight the perfect insect bursts this third envelope and rejects it again by the posterior fissure. Then appear the points of the two white filaments secreted by the insect, and which lengthen day by day; finally the elegant little animal escapes backward, runs along the stems of the maples in search of the females, copulates, and dies. It is then the female's turn to surround herself with a cocoon and to fill it with eggs, which will give origin to the next generation.—*Comptes Rendus*, February 20, 1882, p. 499.

Note on Euripus consimilis *of Westwood.*

By Arthur G. Butler, F.L.S., F.Z.S., &c.

I have just received from Mr. J. Wood-Mason an interesting paper upon the Lepidopterous genera *Euripus* and *Penthema*, the illustrations to which are admirably faithful.

In this paper Mr. Wood-Mason has been unfortunate enough to fall into error, owing chiefly to the brevity of Westwood's diagnosis of *E. consimilis*. It runs thus :—

"*Diadema consimilis*, Westw., nov. sp.

"Northern India. Coll. East Ind. House.

"*Diadema* alis albis, anticis costa, venis, strigis tribus obliquis limboque apicali nigris; posticis albis, venis anguste, limbo apicali (albo-